

NEWS

From the County of San Bernardino

Josie Gonzales Fifth District

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**JGFDS-PR-103 WOMEN'S ACHIEVEMENT
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN RECOGNIZES 5 WOMEN

(San Bernardino, CA) San Bernardino County's Commission on the Status of Women recognized five women for contributions to the community. The awardees are Dorothy Adams from Pinon Hills; Mary Ellen Leggio from Rancho Cucamonga; Laura Palmer from Redlands; the Honorable Eunice Ulloa from Chino and Kim Carter from San Bernardino.

The Commission on the Status of Women serves to advance the causes of all women and works to identify and eliminate inequities that affect their lives.

"This is an exciting time for women in the Inland Empire," said Fifth District Supervisor Josie Gonzales. "There are life-changing opportunities for everyone. This is a great place to start or expand a business and raise a family."

"I believe we should see more women college graduates, and increased opportunities for single moms, not only in employment but also in business ownership. We must also provide more local employment opportunities for the new professional women who are moving to the County of San Bernardino. We need to encourage them to start and run new businesses here in our county," said Gonzales.

Kim Carter was recognized for her dedication and motivation to help women transition back into society from incarceration and rehabilitation. She advocates for women while empowering them to overcome obstacles preventing them from leading full and productive lives. Carter is the Founder and Executive Director of the Time for Change Foundation.

Laura Palmer was recognized for her devotion to the community. She helps others as a member of the Emergency Response Service Ministries. She is also committed to improving medical care for adults with brain impairments.

Dorothy Adams received recognition for her dedication to the High Desert and the Community of Pinon Hills. Adams served on the Waste Water Commission, Committee for Self Governance, and the Pinon Hills Municipal Advisory Council.

Marry Ellen Leggio was recognized for her charity and philanthropic work in San Bernardino County and nationally. She has been involved with the Boys and Girls Club of the Mountain Communities, Upland Library Adult Literacy Program, breast cancer research, Catholic Charities, our local Chabad Hebrew Temple, Upland Firefighters, and many others.

Eunice Ulloa received recognition for her contributions to the City of Chino and the County of San Bernardino. She has served on the Chino City Planning commission, as a

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council member, as Mayor Pro Temp and as Mayor. She also served as Chair of the Omnitrans Board of Directors and as a Member of the San Bernardino Associated Governments Board of Directors, the transportation-planning agency for the county.

"The Commission on the Status of Women was originally established by the Board of Supervisors in 1974 to eliminate discrimination of women," said Commission Chair Roberta Shouse.

"The Commission also promotes the well being of women, families and children. We are very involved in stopping domestic violence and advocating to improve women's health," said Shouse.

"I thought that the five women that we chose were exceptional," said Shouse. "I always enjoy hearing about the great things that women are doing in our county."

The commissioners from each supervisorial district select a woman to be honored for their contributions. Each member of the Board of Supervisors appoints three persons to the Commission on the Status of Women.

The Commission on the Status of Women can be reached at (909) 387-5584.

Supervisor Gonzales is accepting applications for the Commission on the Status of Women and other boards and commissions.

For more information on applying for board or commission please check the website at <http://www.sbcounty.gov/bosd5/boardsandcommissions.htm>.

For news from the Fifth District go to
<http://www.sbcounty.gov/bosd5/pressrelease.htm>

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Bios on each of the awardees are included.

About The Commission on the Status of Women - The Commission on the Status of Women was created by the Board of Supervisors in December 1974 to work to eliminate inequities in laws, practices and conditions which affect women, to give consultative and technical advice on issues of concern to women, to promote means by which women can realize their full potential, and provide information for the public and the Board of Supervisors on the special needs of women, Resolution No. R-74-27. Regular meetings are held monthly.

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Kim Carter
Women's Advocate



Kim Carter is the Founder and Executive Director of Time for Change Foundation. Her dedication and motivation to help women transition back into society from incarceration and rehabilitation is personal. She advocates for women and their issues while empowering them to overcome obstacles preventing them from leading full and productive lives.

She mirrors her idol Harriet Tubman by lighting a path and leading others to freedom from addiction and incarceration. Her motto is “A lit candle loses nothing when it lights another.”

Certified in Accounting with an emphasis on Not for Profit Accounting, she is the only former client of Cedar House Rehabilitation Center to come back and serve on the Board of Directors. Carter also serves as the Finance Chair and on the Executive Board as Treasurer.

Carter is one of 24 women selected from across California to participate in the Women's Policy Institute Fellowship where she is learning how to advocate and create policies that will have a positive effect on women. Currently she is on several advisory boards and a founding member of Forever Free Alumni Association. Forever Free is comprised of 450, formerly incarcerated recovering women who have successfully maintained their freedom, sobriety and become active leaders in their communities.

Her work has been featured in The Sun Newspaper, The Black Voice News and The Precinct Reporter. She is a Recipient of the N.A.A.C.P. “Community Pioneer Award,” The San Bernardino Soroptomist “Women Making a Difference Award” and the K.C.E.T. “2004 Unsung Hero Award.”

Carter is married to Mark Carter, President of MC Real Estate and Investments, and proud mother of Miss 'Ola Dennis a junior at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.

Laura Palmer
Redlands Area Family Advocate

Laura Palmer's life both professionally and personally has been devoted to helping others, and is both grounded and driven by her deeply rooted Christian beliefs.

From 1986 to 1999, she was a family consultant from the Inland Caregiver Resource Center providing families with information and guidance as they cared for adults with brain impairments including dementia, Alzheimer's, brain injury and ALS.

In 1999, she founded, Family Stabilization Inc. (FSI). It was a non-profit, providing budget counseling to families through 12 weeks of classes and based upon spiritual principles. Through FSI Palmer provided reconditioned computers to churches, senior centers, small businesses and tutorial programs for children and the disabled.

Palmer and her partner, Ray Whitlock, created a computer business that they turned over to the Calimesa Breakfast Lion's Club and helped the Club to build a computer shop, hire specialists and develop a greater outreach to the community. Palmer serves as its computer Chairperson. As a member, and when serving as its President, she was instrumental in providing computers for Mexico and accompanying members to Tecate, Mexico to provide eye exams and glasses for those who could not afford them.

Because children in need are very special to Palmer, she became a certified childcare worker in 1994, providing Disaster Child Care as a member of the Emergency Response Service Ministries of the Church of the Brethren General Board. She is a certified Red Cross volunteer and has a suitcase packed at all times to be ready to serve when needed. This group provides childcare when any emergency arises where children need help coping with grief, fear and loss after traumatic events. She was called and has assisted at the Northridge Earthquake, the Alaskan Air Disaster, the Southern California Fires, and was on-call during our recent mudslides and flooding.

This year she received training to work on the Critical Response Team dealing with terrorist acts, aviation disasters and mass casualty events.

Palmer is a member of Disaster Child Care. It is a group of caring adults who are challenged by the Biblical mandate to "bear one another's burdens.

Dorothy Adams
Community Volunteer

Native born and lifetime resident, Dorothy Adams is a community activist and resident of Pinon Hills for the past 33 years. She and her husband of 64 years, Reginald, chose the High Desert in which to raise their three children. They are now the proud grandparents to 17 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

Adams realized very early that a quality home life could not be preserved unless the community was also protected. She thus began her community service by serving on the Water Board for Rowland Heights in 1955 and 1956.

San Bernardino County has benefited from Adams' service with the Zone L Water Commission in 1998, and approximately two years on the Committee for Self Governance, and four to five years on the Pinon Hills Municipal Advisory Council. Very recently health conditions pressed Adams' to resign from that Council.

Mary Ellen Leggio
Philanthropist

Mary Ellen Leggio was raised in Phoenix, Arizona, one of 6 children. While attending Xavier High School for girls, she began doing her first Christian service at Crisis Nursery for abused children.

Leggio attended Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, where she met her husband Mark. They moved to Upland, California in 1982 while doing her student teaching at Hawthorne High School.

Leggio began teaching junior high school in Claremont Unified School district. She taught junior high at Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic School for many years.

In recent years, she has become involved in charity and philanthropic work. While being asked to serve on many community related boards, she has chosen to stay focused in certain areas.

Leggio was recently involved in the Boys and Girls Club of the Mountain Communities (Crestline, Lake Arrowhead, Lake Gregory and Running Springs area).

She has worked on the Upland Library Adult Literacy Program. She chose to get involved in this worthwhile cause because according to Leggio "it is so instrumental to our community to have all adults offered the opportunity to learn to read and write."

Leggio works on the Mark Christopher Charity Classic – a Nationwide golf tournament played locally which helps raise money for many women's and children's charities such as Loma Linda University Hospital Medical Center, Steven's Hope for Children, Feed the Hungry and Shelter the Homeless, Foothill Women's Shelter and various other organizations.

She has also been involved philanthropically in many other charities locally and nationally (breast cancer research, many Catholic charities, the local Chabad Hebrew Temple, Upland Firefighters, and others).

Eunice Ulloa
Chino Valley Leader

Eunice Ulloa was born and raised in this Valley and has been a resident of Chino since 1980. She is a graduate of Claremont High School and received her Bachelor of Science degree, with honors, in Human Resources, Small Business Management from California State Polytechnic University in Pomona. Ulloa completed 28 years of employment with Hughes Missile Systems Company (formerly General Dynamics) in 1994 when she elected not to relocate to Tucson, Arizona, with the company. She has been the Office Manager and Controller for a computer consulting firm in Brea for 9 ½ years.

Before being elected to the Chino City Council, Ulloa served as a Planning Commissioner from 1983 to 1984. She was elected to the City Council, as a member in 1984, re-elected in 1998, served a two-year year term as Mayor Pro Tem, and was elected as Mayor in 1992, re-elected in 1996 and 2000. Ulloa has served as Chair of the Omnitrans Board of Directors, Chairperson of the Omnitrans Budget Review Committee and Board of Directors member of the San Bernardino County Associated Governments, the County Transportation Commission. She also represented the City of Chino on the Association of California Cities Allied with Prisons, Flood Control District Zone 1 Advisory Committee, and the Southern California Association of Governments.

Ulloa is a member of the Inland Community Church, Honorary Member of Kiwanis Club, a founding member of the Chino Youth Accountability Board and member and past secretary of the Chino Mounted Posse.

Ulloa and her husband, Bob, have a total of six grown children and six grandchildren. They enjoy camping, USC football games, hot air ballooning, and raising horses on their mini-farm.